

MINUTES OF THE SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Taddiken at 8:30 a.m. on January 22, 2008 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Steve Morris- excused
Derek Schmidt- excused

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jason Thompson, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Matt Todd, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Judy Seitz, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Dr. Fred A. Cholick, Dean, College of Agriculture and Director of K-State Research and Extension
Dr. Daryl Buchholz, Associate Director, K-State Extension and Applied Research

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Taddiken welcomed the Kansas Livestock Association Leadership Class to the Committee.

A copy of an article ([Attachment 1](#)) entitled "More Miles for your Gallon" reporting on research at the University of Minnesota and North Dakota on ethanol and mid-range blends was handed out to the Committee.

Dr. Fred Cholic, Dean, College of Agriculture and Director of K-State Research and Extension, reported on the Kansas Center for Sustainable Agriculture and Alternative Crops (KCSAAC) ([Attachment 2](#)) which has provided assistance and training for those who participate in the farmers' markets.

Extension Systems in Agriculture Programs (ESARP) provides funding for K-State Research and Extension. ([Attachment 3](#)) which is a partnership in both funding and people.

Proper grassland burning in the Flint Hills grasslands maintains the eco system and supports the \$6 billion beef industry in the state.

Wheat production is very important to the economy of the state; and Kansas is the number one milling state.

Operation: Military Kids is a national support program for military families and children who do not live on a military base.

Another example of a partnership is K-State Research and Extension reaching out to help communities through the Kansas PRIDE Program. Many of these are nutrition based programs.

Another collaborative project with industries is the research which monitors feedlot air. This project will help K-State develop the scientific knowledge so that if and when regulations are passed, they will be able to make wise decisions.

Dr. Daryl Buchholz, Associate Director, K-State Extension and Applied Research, said that 2007 was a unique year because of the coping necessary for the disasters which affected most counties in Kansas. K-State Research and Extension has staffed offices in every county.

K-State Extension provided leadership and support in organizing a series of informational meetings to those affected by the ice storm, snow storm, floods and tornadoes. A forum was held to help understand the programs and opportunities that are available in the disaster recovery process with a focus on the agriculture and rural interest. K-State is part of the Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN); a collaborative multistate effort to improve the delivery of services to citizens affected by disasters. Rural families also

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received emotional and mental support in dealing with these disasters.

Dr. Cholic took questions from the Committee.

There were no bill introductions.

Each member of the Kansas Livestock Leadership Class gave their name and hometown.

Dr. Cholic continued answering questions.

The meeting adjourned.